

44. (NEW) A process for producing antibodies to cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) in the blood of a human whose blood contains CETP, said process comprising the steps of:

(a) administering an inoculum to said human, said inoculum comprising a vehicle containing a CETP immunogen, wherein said CETP immunogen has (i) an exogenous antigenic carrier polypeptide that is peptide-bonded to (ii) an immunogenic polypeptide comprising amino acids 465 through 475 of human CETP amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 28);

(b) repeating said administration at an interval of about three to six months, sufficient for said CETP immunogen to cause, by an autogenic immunological response, production of antibodies which bind to CETP in the blood of said human and

(c) maintaining said antibodies which bind to CETP in the blood of said human by further administration of said inoculum at an interval of about 9 to 18 months,

whereby the binding of said antibodies to CETP in said blood lessens the transfer of cholesteryl ester from HDL and increases the concentration of HDL cholesterol in the blood of said human.

45. (NEW) The process of claim 44 wherein said immunogenic polypeptide comprises amino acids 461 through 476 of human CETP amino acid sequence.

46. (NEW) The process of claim 44 wherein said exogenous antigenic carrier polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of tetanus toxoid, tuberculin purified protein derivative, diphtheria toxoid, thyroglobulin, and a branched oligolysine.

47. (NEW) The process of claim 45 wherein said exogenous antigenic carrier polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of tetanus toxoid, tuberculin purified protein derivative, diphtheria toxoid, thyroglobulin, and a branched oligolysine.

REMARKS

At the outset, applicants thank Examiner Davis for the courtesy shown their undersigned representative and Dr. Fedde in the recent interview. At that interview, new claim 44 was discussed. The support for the claim in the pending specification was explained using claim charts, which are reproduced below. The Examiner also informed applicants' representatives